



## United States Department of Agriculture.

### SERVICE AND REGULATORY ANNOUNCEMENTS.

#### BUREAU OF BIOLOGICAL SURVEY.

#### REGULATIONS FOR THE PROTECTION OF LAND FUR-BEARING ANIMALS IN ALASKA.

The act of May 31, 1920, entitled "An act making appropriations for the Department of Agriculture for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1921" (41 Stat., 694, at pp. 716-717), conferred upon the Secretary of Agriculture the powers and duties theretofore conferred upon the Secretary of Commerce, by law, proclamations, or Executive orders, with respect to any mink, marten, beaver, land otter, muskrat, fox, wolverene, weasel, or other land fur-bearing animal in Alaska.

Section 1956 of the Revised Statutes, as amended by section 173 of the act of March 3, 1899 (30 Stat., 1253), and by section 4 of the act of April 21, 1910 (36 Stat., 326-327), provides that—

No person shall kill any otter, mink, marten, sable, or fur seal, or other fur-bearing animal, within the limits of Alaska Territory or in the waters thereof; and every person guilty thereof shall, for each offense, be fined not less than two hundred nor more than one thousand dollars or imprisoned not more than six months, or both; and all vessels, their tackle, apparel, furniture, and cargo found engaged in violation of this section shall be forfeited; but the Secretary of Commerce and Labor shall have power to authorize the killing of any such mink, marten, sable, fur seal, or other fur-bearing animal under such regulations as he may prescribe; and it shall be the duty of the Secretary of Commerce and Labor to prevent the killing of any fur seal except as authorized by law and to provide for the execution of the provisions of this section until it is otherwise provided by law.

Pursuant to the authority conferred upon the Secretary of Agriculture under the aforesaid acts of Congress, the following regulations effective September 1, 1923, are prescribed to govern the killing of land fur-bearing animals in Alaska:

#### REGULATION 1.—DISTRICTS.

For the purpose of enforcing this act the Territory of Alaska is hereby divided into three districts as shown in the accompanying map and described as follows:

*District 1* includes the Aleutian Islands, Alaska Peninsula and neighboring islands, and Southeastern Alaska, mainland and islands, from Yakutat Bay to Dixon Entrance.

*District 2* includes the mainland and islands from Yakutat Bay, Gulf of Alaska, Iliamna Lake, and Bristol Bay, northward to the headwaters of the

streams flowing into the Arctic Ocean north of the sixty-eighth parallel of north latitude.

*District 3* includes the region drained by the streams entering the Arctic Ocean north of the sixty-eighth parallel of north latitude.

#### REGULATION 2.—UNPRIME PELTS.

No land fur-bearing animal shall be killed when its pelt is unprime.

#### REGULATION 3.—BEAVER.

There is hereby established a closed season on beaver throughout the Territory until November 16, 1924.



Map of Alaska, showing fur districts.

#### REGULATION 4.—KRUF AND PARTOFSHIKOF ISLANDS.

The killing of any land fur-bearing animal on Kruzof and Partofshikof Islands is hereby prohibited until September 1, 1925.

#### REGULATION 5.—OPEN SEASONS.

Land fur-bearing animals may be killed in the specified districts during the following open seasons:

*District 1:* (See exceptions for the Kodiak-Afognak Islands Group.)

Muskrat, December 16 to April 30, both dates inclusive.

Marten, November 16 to March 31, both dates inclusive.

Mink, land otter, and weasel (ermine), December 16 to March 31, both dates inclusive.

Bear—black, cinnamon, and glacier—September 1 to June 30, both dates inclusive.

Fox—red, cross, and silver, and lynx—November 16 to February 15, both dates inclusive.

Blue fox—on the Aleutian Islands Reservation only—November 16 to February 15, both dates inclusive.

Wolf or wolverene, no closed season.

*Exceptions:* Kodiak-Afognak Islands Group, including Dark Island as the outermost island on the north, Marmot Island on the east, and Tugidak and Trinity Islands on the west and south—

Fox—red, cross, and silver—land otter, weasel (ermine), November 16 to February 15, both dates inclusive.

*District 2:*

Muskrat, May 1 to June 10, both dates inclusive.

Marten, mink, land otter, and weasel (ermine), November 16 to March 31, both dates inclusive.

Fox—red, cross, and silver—and lynx, November 16 to March 15, both dates inclusive.

Fox—white and blue—(north of latitude 62°, and on Bering Sea drainage south of latitude 62°, to Bristol Bay), December 1 to March 31, both dates inclusive.

Black, cinnamon, or glacier bear, wolf, or wolverene may be killed at any time.

*District 3:*

Muskrat, May 1 to June 10, both dates inclusive.

Marten, mink, land otter, and weasel (ermine), November 16 to March 31, both dates inclusive.

Fox and lynx, December 1 to March 31, both dates inclusive.

Black, cinnamon, or glacier bear, wolf, or wolverene may be killed at any time.

**REGULATION 6.—ARTIFICIAL LIGHTS AND DESTRUCTION OF HOUSES, DAMS, OR RUNWAYS OF BEAVER.**

The killing of any of the following land fur-bearing animals, viz: White fox, blue fox, red fox, cross fox, black or silver fox, mink, marten (American sable), land otter, weasel (ermine), muskrat, and beaver, by the use of a jack or pit lamp or any other artificial light, and the destruction of the houses, dams, or runways of beaver by the use of dynamite or other explosives, or in any other manner, is prohibited at all times.

**REGULATION 7.—TRAPS.**

The killing of any land fur-bearing animal at any time by means of the trap or device known as the "klips," or by means of any steel bear trap or any other trap with jaws having a spread exceeding 8 inches, is prohibited.

**REGULATION 8.—DOGS.**

The use of dogs for pursuing and killing any land fur-bearing animal, except bear, for which a close season is prescribed for any period, is prohibited.

**REGULATION 9.—POISON.**

The killing of any land fur-bearing animal by means of strychnine or any other poison is prohibited at all times.

**REGULATION 10.—SEIZURE OF SKINS.**

All skins of land fur-bearing animals killed in violation of these regulations found in the possession of any person in Alaska shall be seized by wardens and other officers designated by the Secretary of Agriculture, or other officers authorized by law, and such wardens and other officers shall hold such skins for such disposition as shall be ordered by the court having jurisdiction of a suit for condemnation and forfeiture thereof.

**REGULATION 11.—SHIPMENTS OF FURS TO BE REPORTED.**

Shipments of furs consigned to points outside of Alaska, which may be made at any time, shall be reported to the Bureau of Biological Survey, Department of Agriculture, on appropriate blanks which will be supplied for that purpose.

On and after September 1, 1923, all regulations for the protection of land fur-bearing animals in Alaska made and published by the



Secretary of Agriculture under authority of the Alaska fur law prior to the regulations hereby made and published shall be and are hereby revoked.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the official seal of the United States Department of Agriculture to be affixed, in the City of Washington, this 22d day of August, 1923.

[SEAL.]

HENRY C. WALLACE,  
*Secretary of Agriculture.*

NOTE.—The Criminal Code of Alaska (Title 1, Chap. 13, sec. 186), provides that all persons concerned in the commission of a crime, whether they directly commit the act constituting the crime or aid and abet in its commission, though not present, are principals, and are to be tried and punished as such. By this section any person knowingly selling poison for the purpose of killing land fur-bearing animals is a participator in the crime and is likewise punishable. \* \* \* The Criminal Code of Alaska, section 2043, provides that if any person shall sell or deliver any arsenic, corrosive sublimate, prussic acid, or other poison, without having the word "poison" and the true name thereof in English written or printed upon a label attached to the vial, box, or parcel containing the same, such person, upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by a fine of not less than twenty nor more than one hundred dollars.

#### Penalties for Unlawful Shipment and Transportation.

(Criminal Code—Act of March 4, 1909. 35 Stat., 1137.)

SEC. 242. It shall be unlawful for any person to deliver to any common carrier for transportation, or for any common carrier to transport from any State, Territory, or District of the United States, to any other State, Territory, or District thereof, any foreign animals or birds, the importation of which is prohibited, or the dead bodies or parts thereof of any wild animals or birds, where such animals or birds have been killed or shipped in violation of the laws of the State, Territory, or District in which the same were killed, or from which they were shipped: *Provided*, That nothing herein shall prevent the transportation of any dead birds or animals killed during the season when the same may be lawfully captured, and the export of which is not prohibited by law in the State, Territory, or District in which the same are captured or killed: *Provided further*, That nothing herein shall prevent the importation, transportation, or sale of birds or bird plumage manufactured from the feathers of barnyard fowls. \* \* \*

SEC. 244. For each evasion or violation of any provision of the three last sections preceding the shipper shall be fined not more than two hundred dollars; the consignee knowingly receiving such articles so shipped and transported in violation of said sections shall be fined not more than two hundred dollars; and the carrier knowingly carrying or transporting the same in violation of said sections shall be fined not more than two hundred dollars.

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